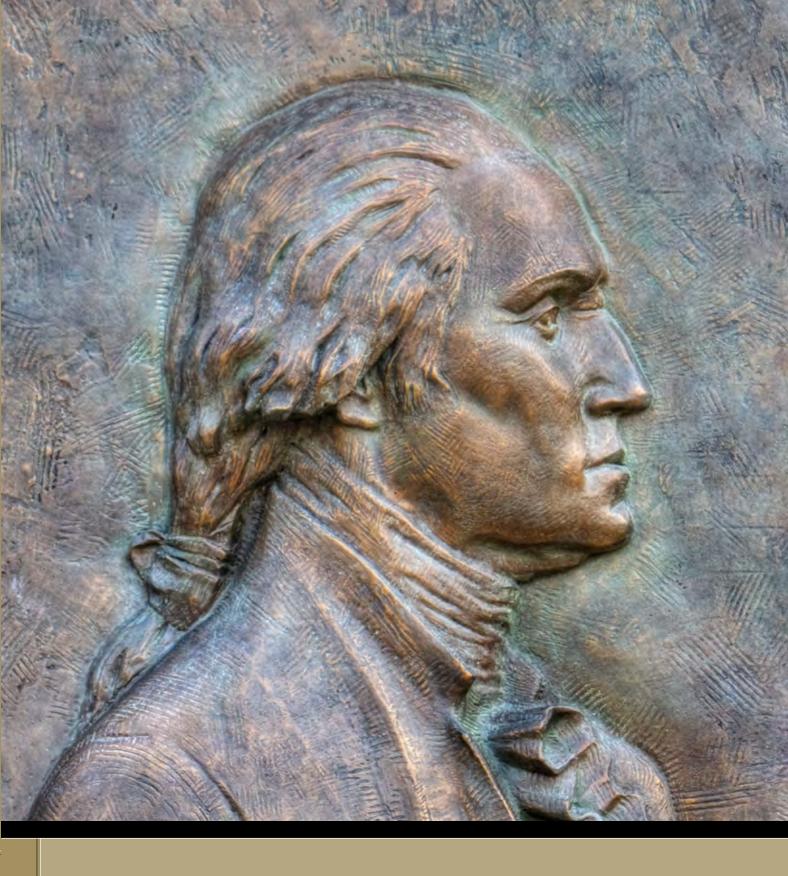


UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

FIFTIETH ANNUAL WASHINGTON WEEK ★ WASHINGTON, D.C. MARCH 3-10, 2012



"I HAVE NO OTHER VIEW THAN TO PROMOTE THE PUBLIC GOOD, AND AM UNAMBITIOUS OF HONORS NOT FOUNDED IN THE APPROBATION OF MY COUNTRY." — GEORGE WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM 50TH ANNIVERSARY SENATE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

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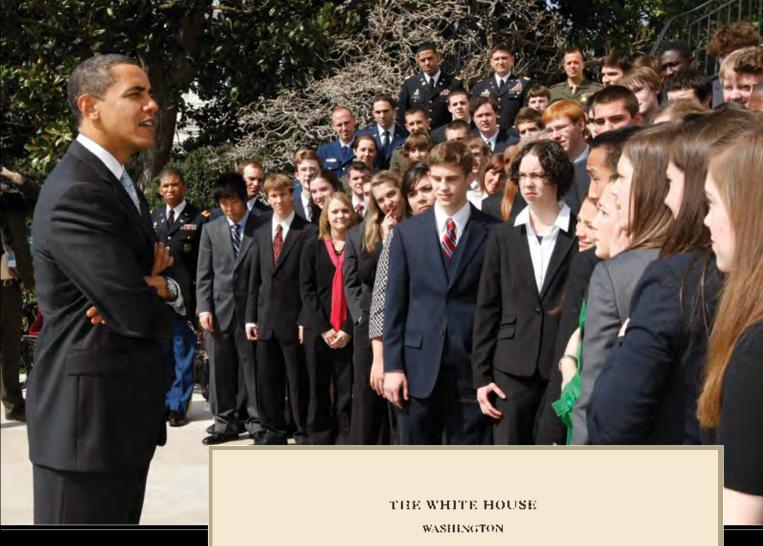
SENATOR JOHNNY ISAKSON of Georgia



SENATOR RICHARD G. LUGAR of Indiana



SENATOR JEFF SESSIONS of Alabama



February 16, 2012

We send greetings to all those celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the U.S. Senate Youth Program (USSYP).

Since its establishment in 1962, the USSYP has provided generations of young Americans with valuable experiences in public service. Founded on a belief in the strength of our democracy and a desire to nurture our future leaders, the USSYP offers an example of what can be accomplished with bipartisan leadership and committed investment in our Nation's young people.

As you gather on this special occasion, we commend the 2012 student delegates, and applaud the many alumni who have gone on to serve our country and communities with distinction. Congratulations on this milestone, and we wish you all the best in the years ahead.

But mikelle Obama

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

1962-2012

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS

of Education, Leadership and Public Service







UNITED STATES SENATE RESOLUTION 324

In 1962, Senate Resolution 324, submitted by Senator KUCHEL (for himself and Senators MANSFIELD, DIRKSEN, and HUMPHREY), was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration, and, subsequently, unanimously approved by the United State Senate as follows:

WHEREAS the continued vitality of our Republic depends, in part, on the intelligent understanding of our political processes and the functions of our National Government by the citizens of the United States; and

WHEREAS the durability of a constitutional democracy is dependent upon alert, talented, vigorous competition for political leadership; and

WHEREAS individual Senators have cooperated with various private and university undergraduate and graduate fellowship and internship programs relating to the work of Congress; and

WHEREAS in the high schools of the United States, there exists among students who have been elected to student body offices in their junior or senior year a potential reservoir of young citizens who are experiencing their first responsibilities of service to a constituency and who should be encouraged to deepen their interest in and understanding of their country's political process: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate hereby expresses its willingness to cooperate in a nationwide competitive high school Senate youth program which would give several representative high school students from each State a short indoctrination into the operation of the United States Senate and the Federal Government generally, if such a program can be satisfactorily arranged and completely supported by private funds with no expense to the Federal Government.

RESOLUTION 146. To amend S. Res. 324 of the Eighty-seventh Congress to provide for the participation of the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas in the Senate Youth Program.

Resolved, That S. Res. 324, Eighty-seventh Congress, agreed to May 17, 1963, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

Section 3. For the purpose of this resolution, the term "State" includes the Department of Defense education system for dependents in overseas areas.

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No. 31

Senate SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

Mr. REID, Mr. President, I rise today to honor the achievements of the U.S. Senate Youth Program, USSYP, an organization that has molded some of our Nation's brightest students to become the next generation of public servants.

This year marks 50 years of a commitment to educate and nurture talented young leaders interested in serving their communities. The USSYP hails from a strong family that valued bipartisanship and democratic lawmaking. William Randolph Hearst's sons, George R. Hearst and Randolph A. Hearst, envisioned this program and brought it to life with the collaboration of then-Senators Tom Kuchel, R CA, Mike Mansfield, D MT, Everett Dirksen, R ILL., and Hubert Humphrey, D MN.

The USSYP was created by S. Res. 324 in 1962 "to increase young Americans' understanding of the interrelationships of the three branches of government, the caliber and responsibilities of federally elected and appointed officials, and the vital importance of democratic decision making not only for America but for people around the world."

I would also like to commend the State departments of education across the country that select the outstanding students each year and the Department of Defense, which provides competitively selected military officers from every service branch to serve as guides and mentors to the students during the

program. The Hearst Foundations have continued to administer and fund the program since inception, including individual \$5,000 college scholarships for each student given with the encouragement to continue their studies in history and government.

This year, 104 impressive student delegates were selected because of their outstanding leadership abilities and volunteer work by the chief educational officer from each State to travel to Washington and serve as young "senators" from their respective States for 1 week. They will keep a busy schedule attending meetings and briefings with Senators and congressional staff, the President, a Justice of the Supreme Court, leaders of Cabinet agencies, an ambassador to the United States, and top members of the national media.

The USSYP has a proud roster of more than 5,000 alumni of the program who continue to use the skills they learned from their experience as delegates and many of whom have become public servants.

I am proud to serve as an honorary co-chair of the program, and I send my best wishes to each of the students selected to represent their States during Washington Week. I especially send my sincere congratulations to the two Nevada delegates, Daniel Waqar of Las Vegas and Benjamin Link of Eureka.



DEAR DELEGATES,

It is my pleasure to congratulate all the student delegates of the United States Senate Youth Program class of 2012. Your energy, talent and inquisitive spirit embodied the mission of the program, as we celebrated its 50th anniversary together.

On behalf of everyone at The Hearst Foundations, thank you for the high level of participation and quality questions you brought to the sessions with our esteemed speakers. We delighted in the camaraderie and respectful debate you engaged in as you exchanged views with your peers from across the political spectrum.

The 50th anniversary Washington Week was replete with star alumni, magnificent locations, the highest-level elected and appointed officials and a vicarious trip to the stars courtesy of our 50th anniversary gala keynote speaker, the NASA Administrator Charles Bolden. Many memories were made during the week that will be treasured for years to come.

The Hearst Foundations are honored to sponsor this unique and enduring partnership of the United States Senate, the 50 state departments of education, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity, exceptional educators and outstanding students. Now more than 5000 strong, USSYP alumni include Senator Susan Collins of Maine, the first delegate elected to the U.S. Senate; Congressman Cory Gardner of Colorado, the first delegate elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; New Jersey Governor Chris Christie; former Chief Judge Robert Henry, U.S. Court of Appeals; former Ambassador to West Germany Richard Burt; former presidential advisors, congressional staff and many other accomplished individuals. We salute all of you.

We also wish to recognize the commitment of our 50th anniversary program Co-Chairs, Senator Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico and Senator Susan Collins of Maine. Senator Collins has served as Republican Co-Chair of the 40th, 45th and now 50th anniversary years and we are humbled by her continuing commitment to support the program she credits with beginning her career.

We thank the many distinguished speakers who generously gave of their time. Washington Week could not take place without the continued endorsement of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration and their excellent staff. The U.S. Senate and USSYP also thank the staff of the Council of Chief State Schools Officers and all of the state-level selection administrators for their pivotal roles in the student selection process.

The program's mission shall continue as long as there are young people in America with a dedication to academic excellence and a desire to serve their communities. Here's to another fifty years!

-WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST III



WELCOME TO WASHINGTON! EXCITEMENT AND ALUMNI MENTORING ON FIRST DAY IN D.C.

After weeks of anticipation and conversing on the USSYP 2012 Facebook page, delegates arrive from every part of the country and are brought to the historic Mayflower Hotel in downtown Washington, D.C. Meeting for the first time, students are welcomed by their Military Mentors, USSYP alumni and program staff. USSYP alumni have distinguished themselves in the fields of government, education, law, healthcare, engineering, information technology, the nonprofit sector, business and journalism, and are on hand at designated mentoring tables to network with the delegates and answer questions about education and careers.

On the evening of arrival day the students are formally introduced to their Military Mentors, seventeen competitively selected male and female officers from each service branch assigned to help guide the delegates through the logistics and protocol of the demanding week to come.

The United States Senate Youth Alumni Association (www.ussyaa.org) has forged and maintained ties with thousands of program alumni. In addition to on-going activities throughout the year, alumni gather during Washington Week for the association's annual dinner and board meeting.

[bottom right] United States Senate Youth Alumni Association President Rachel Lowe (OR-2000)











Longtime USSYP supporter provides ideas to mitigate debt and energy scenarios for the nation

SENATOR JEFF BINGAMAN OF NEW MEXICO came armed and ready for an in-depth discussion at the opening night dinner of Washington Week 2012, brandishing two technical handouts rife with statistics, graphs and charts. He knows the caliber of a USSYP delegate well; the Chairman of the powerful Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has been a dedicated USSYP supporter during his nearly thirty year Senate career, serving previously as Democratic Co-Chair and maintaining a perfect attendance record at the USSYP Annual Senate Reception. After the patriotic medleys of the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, Senator Bingaman laid out his perspective on the intransigence of the current Congress. "The filibuster is now used to stop what used to be routine business. I favor having the ability to filibuster on important issues that require a stand on principle, but we are not using it that way today. It is being used to essentially impede the normal









functioning of the government, and I think it is a serious problem." Referring to a chart on federal spending as a percentage of gross domestic product he said, "We have to tackle the problem of short-term job growth and long-term deficit reduction. While it may not be popular, a package that raises revenues and cuts spending is the only way I know to get us to the surpluses we were able to achieve in the 1990's." He cited the so-called TARP Program, the federal support for the auto-industry and the Recovery Act as controversial but important steps by Congress that helped mitigate effects of the recession, noting that much of the substance of these plans began during the George W. Bush presidency. Senator Bingaman was hopeful that the impending catalyst of the expiring tax cuts, a rare legislative maneuver called sequestration, and the lame duck session following this fall's election would give Congress a "chance to redeem itself" from the current quagmire. The Energy Committee Chairman then moved on to a discussion of the Clean Energy Standards Act of 2012, which he recently introduced, aimed at lowering carbon dioxide emissions in all energy sectors. The students engaged in a wide-ranging Q and A session with a true statesman who will be sorely missed when he retires this year.

[left] Senator Bingaman with New Mexico delegates Elena Vigil and Noah McCullough [right] The Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps performs at the opening dinner



Journey to the Senate BEGAN WITH THE USSYP

SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS OF MAINE, the first USSYP delegate to become a United States Senator, stood at the apex of the marble stairs that lead into the imposing rotunda of the National Archives and Records Administration building, where the original founding documents of our nation are displayed. "I believe that my week in Washington as a delegate in 1971 set me on a journey that led me to the United States Senate today," she said. "And I am here to tell you that the scholarship, leadership and community service that got you here will take you anywhere you want to go." The third-term moderate Republican then recounted a cherished story from her own Washington Week experience, which was both her first trip to the nation's capital and her first time on an airplane. Senator Margaret Chase Smith, the first woman to serve in both houses of the U.S. Congress and the first woman to represent Maine in either, spoke to the young delegate for nearly two hours about the issues of the day. "At the time, Senator Smith was the only woman serving in the Senate, but it is telling to me that she never mentioned that fact. Instead, she talked about her work as a member of



"Dedication to service can be realized through a commitment to bipartisanship. It is a word that I am proud to have been associated with, because it describes standing tall for your beliefs while demonstrating a willingness to consider other points of view." — SENATOR SUSAN COLLINS

the Armed Services Committee. She talked about the state of the economy, and most of all, she talked to me about her historic speech known as the 'Declaration of Conscience,' one of the greatest speeches in American history." In that speech, freshman Senator Margaret Chase Smith took on Senator Joseph McCarthy of Wisconsin and his national campaign of accusation and 'black listing.' "What I remember most was her telling me to stand tall for what I believed in," Senator Collins recalled, "And certainly her famous speech that defined the need to respect the beliefs of people who disagree with you and reminded everyone of our country's founding principles, was an example of that." Senator Collins lamented that the spirit of bipartisanship and consensus building in Congress has been vilified recently by extremists on either end of the political spectrum. She posited that the negative discourse in government is an outgrowth of a general lack of civility in American life. "It may not be easy to feel passionate about civility and compromise, but surely it is easy to feel passionate about a vibrant, just and prosperous America, and to achieve that end, we need to become more passionate about reigniting that spirit of vigorous yet respectful debate that leads to solutions."

[top right] Senator Collins with Maine delegates Julia Brown and Adam Cohen [bottom left] Congressman Gardner and Senator Collins at the National Archives









U.S. Chief Justice John G. Roberts, Jr. Offers Lessons on History and Law

Anticipation was mounting as the students whispered and waited in the majestic East Conference Room of the Supreme Court. Large oil paintings of the first eight Chief Justices of the United States gazed upon the 2012 USSYP delegates from the richly paneled walls. Protocol instructions had been given and all were ready as USSYP Student Activities Director Steve Cox uttered "All rise." "All Sit!" the Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr. jokingly commanded, quickly putting the room at ease as he strode in with a wide smile. "I thought I was going to be a history teacher," the Chief Justice explained, when asked if he had been interested in law from the outset. To prove his penchant, he gave the group a quick tutorial on the early Supreme Court through a brief exposition on each of the men in the portraits beginning with John Jay. Upon opening the floor for questions, every hand shot into the air. Asked to define an activist judge, the Chief Justice responded, "An activist is someone who doesn't appreciate the narrowness of the law, someone who adds their own politics into decisions. Restrained judges don't do that." When asked if it had been difficult being appointed as Chief Justice without previous service on the Supreme Court bench, Chief Justice Roberts again offered a historical perspective, "Chief Justices are not usually promoted from among the Justices," he said, "Which I think is a good idea because it could result in friction. When I came into office, I was the youngest Justice on a Court that hadn't changed in eleven years. Our first conference meeting was intimidating, but I have wonderfully supportive colleagues. After all, it's the quality of your argument that matters most, not who is making it."

The Chief Justice with Indiana delegates Eric Chien and Matthew Binder







Distinguished Alumnus recalls founding of the country and of the ussyp with engrossing historical address

Robert H. Henry, President of Oklahoma City University and former Chief Judge of the U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals, began his remarks as keynote speaker for the USSYP 50th anniversary opening breakfast standing next to a large black and white photograph of himself and his fellow Oklahoman delegate meeting former Speaker of the House Carl Albert during Washington Week 1971. "Things happen at this week," mused the highly distinguished USSYP alumnus who also served in the Oklahoma State Legislature and as State Attorney General, as he told the story of asking Speaker Albert to endorse him for Attorney General in return for a promise. "What might that be?" the great Civil Rights leader asked. "Mr. Speaker, someday I will find a young idealistic politician who is working hard and who can be a great legislator or representative of the people, and I will do for him what you did for me," answered the young candidate who did indeed go on to win and who later served as pallbearer at Speaker Albert's funeral. Judge Henry praised the fortitude and moral compass of Speaker Albert as well as the Senate founders of the USSYP who rose above partisanship to pass the Civil Rights Act. "There was a time of true bipartisanship

that allowed for things like this to be done," he said. The greatest threat to liberty today, he claimed, is ignorance, and the antithesis to that threat is the example of his favorite Founding Father Dr. Benjamin Franklin. Judge Henry noted, "Franklin teaches us not only how to make money, how to be successful, but also how to spend it properly. He urges us to constantly improve ourselves and to watch our passions, even as we give into our better passions to inspire our creativity." He pointed out that Dr. Franklin was the only one of our Framers to sign the five great documents that secured our freedom: the Declaration of Independence, the Treaty of Amity and Commerce with France, the Treaty of Alliance with France, the Treaty of Peace with Great Britain and the Constitution of 1789. He closed his remarks cautioning that, although political incivility existed in the past, the current levels of "gridlock and partisanship have got to stop." He recounted that when asked at the end of the Constitutional Convention, "'What kind of government have you created?' 'A Republic if you can keep it,'" Franklin famously replied. "Our Republic cannot be taken for granted," Judge Henry concluded, "We have to work for it."

Former Chief Judge Henry with Oklahoma delegates Jeremy Allen and Courtney Clark



State Craft in the 21st Century:

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY STATE DEPARTMENT LUNCHEON



The magnificent Benjamin Franklin State Dining Room was the venue for the annual U.S. Senate Youth Program luncheon at the U.S. Department of State. The delegates were first given a tour of the beautiful Diplomatic Reception Rooms led by State Department Curator Marcee Craighill. Entering the dining room the students gasped at its splendor, and quickly noticed that each table was hosted by a different bureau within the Department, with representatives seated at each table to answer the delegates' questions. Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs Michael Hammer welcomed the group and gave an overview of the Department's 21st century-style diplomacy, using social media like Twitter to pioneer "smart power" state craft and innovation. Tweeting in foreign languages – Russian, Farsi, Hindi, Urdu, Spanish, French and Turkish to name a few – is part of



"making every effort to communicate with foreign publics and making sure that they understand what America is all about, not by what they might be seeing through foreign media or others describing us," he said. Keynote speaker Ambassador Kathleen Stephens implored the delegates, "Our country needs you. Democracy is a beautiful idea. Sometimes it is also a journey, not a destination, but it works only with active commitment and participation, particularly of the next generation." As Acting Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs,

Ambassador Stephens described her job as "bringing what's best about us and sharing that with others," noting that governments alone cannot accomplish the task; it must be people to people. In an increasingly inter-connected world, Ambassador Stephens said that "we have got to work with our partners on a global level to achieve our aims – by talking to people." David Adams, Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, concluded the event by reflecting on his 28th year of public service saying, "there is no other profession where you can actually be part of making history."

[opposite page - left] State Department Curator Marcee Craighill gives students a personalized tour of the Diplomatic Reception Rooms
[this page - bottom center] Acting Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs Kathleen Stephens with Arizona delegates Molly Stoneman (I) and Ofelia Pina Rodriguez (r)











Senior Senate Officers DISCUSS HISTORY,

PRECEDENT AND THE CALLING OF PUBLIC SERVICE

The Senate's most senior administrative officers, Secretary of the Senate Nancy Erickson and former Chief Parliamentarian Alan Frumin, met with the student delegates in the historic Russell Senate Caucus Room to conduct an in-depth session on Senate procedures, rules and history. Secretary Erickson recounted her very personal memories of 9/11 and the anthrax scare of 2001 and the lesson they provided, "there would have been plenty of reasons never to return back to work but public service means putting the good of the public ahead of one's self. It was an experience that reminded me how much I care about this country and the United States Senate." Describing her own ascent from a small town in South Dakota to Secretary of the Senate, she said, "I am proof to all of you that you never know what opportunities you will have someday."

Chief Parliamentarian, Alan Frumin described his office's role as giving advice to the presiding Senate officer on all aspects of Senate procedures. In particular, Mr. Frumin discussed the challenges of interpreting the Congressional Budget Act which enables simple majorities to go forward without a filibuster, in direct conflict with the 200-plus years of Senate culture protecting the minority. To sum up his experience, Mr. Frumin said, "The Founding Fathers envisioned something special and they created something special. Those of us who have the privilege to work here are a part of the evolution of what the Founding Fathers envisioned, and it's been quite a journey."

[above right] Secretary Erickson with South Dakota delegates James Updike and Elise Twohy; [bottom center] Former Chief Parliamentarian Frumin with D.C. delegates Christopher Jones and Joy Scott









50 Years Ago Today: SENATE HISOTRIAN DON RITCHIE ENLIGHTENS, COMPARES AND CONTRASTS

Senate Historian Don Ritchie gave a fascinating presentation contrasting the Senate as it operates today with the Senate at the time of the founding of the U.S. Senate Youth Program. He set the stage by describing the nation's capital in 1962, a city with electric streetcars, no Metro system, no security barriers at government buildings and dimly lit House and Senate chambers where television cameras had yet to be allowed. "John F. Kennedy was President, and the 'New Frontier' was in full swing," he said. However, the new President's legislative agenda was stalemated stemming from a markedly different make-up of the political parties than exists today. "Fifty years ago there were really four parties in Congress," Mr. Ritchie said. "Within the Republican Party there were as many moderate or Eisenhower Republicans as there were conservative or Goldwater Republicans. Within the Democratic Party, while the Northern and Western Democrats were more liberal, there was a very large contingent of Southerners who chaired the major committees known as the Dixiecrats. On any particular vote, it was not at all uncommon for the Dixiecrat Democrats to vote with the conservative Goldwater Republicans, while the moderate to liberal Republicans voted with the moderate to liberal Democrats." This landscape necessitated compromise to pass any legislation. "Party line votes would have made the front page of the Washington Post or the New York Times," he said, quite unlike today. The intention of the Constitution, Mr. Ritchie continued, was to bridge the diverse economic,

political and ideological differences with a complex system that forced common ground and consensus. "The idea was not to allow any one part of the country to become so dominant that its economic or ideological positions would tyrannize another part of the country. We protected the rights of minorities in our Constitution." The Senate Historian educated the students about the founders of the Senate Youth Program – all known statesmen and consensus builders – Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield of Montana, Republican Leader Everett Dirksen of Illinois, Democratic Whip Hubert Humphrey of Minnesota and the Republican Whip Tom Kuchel of California. "They all saw the Senate Youth Program as an investment in the future," he said. "They trusted that the knowledge that you got from this experience, you would take back with you to influence your careers, and that some day, some of you might sit in the seats that they were occupying in Congress." In closing Mr. Ritchie quoted Senator Hubert Humphrey, known as "The Happy Warrior," who summarized the country's on-going struggle for unity and justice through the words of the pledge of allegiance. "In the 1960's when the USSYP began things were very divisive, but he always looked on the positive side and always put things in perspective." The delegates thanked Mr. Ritchie as he had done the same for them.

Senate Historian Ritchie with Maryland delegates Douglas Bogan and Andrew Wilhelm



Passion and Inspiration FROM A BIG-THINKING FRESHMAN AND USSYP ALUM

U.S. Senate Youth Program alumnus, the first to be elected to the U.S. House of Representative, Congressman Cory Gardner (Colorado R-4th) provided invaluable advice to this year's delegates, "Think about what is it that drives you, what passion you want to pursue, learn everything about it, and then be totally committed to it." Citing the example of former Governor Carr of Colorado who defied President Franklin D. Roosevelt's order to intern citizens of Japanese descent during World War II and lost his bid for the Senate as a result, Congressman Gardner noted, "He did the right thing when nobody else would, and that's the commitment that each and every one of you must make for our country, to always do what is right because good things will follow." He recalled in detail his own program week in 1993 and the overwhelming excitement, energy and inspiration he gained as a delegate. "When you get home, make sure you write everything down in your journals, and make sure you post every memory you can, because they are truly irreplaceable." The freshman Congressman, elected in the historic mid-term turn over of 2010, assessed his new Washington, D.C. landscape this way: "In my version of Politics 101 I see three types of Congressman – the first just wants to be on TV 24 hours a day to make headlines; the second type just wants to get re-elected and will vote in an expedient way to do that. But the third group of people in Congress are those who have the ability to have

with their ideas, but yet do so in a constructive way that truly is about addressing this nation's greatest challenges." A lively question and answer period followed touching on issues such as the budget deficit, taxes, renewable energy and the need to politically motivate the youth of today. Concluding his remarks, Congressman Gardner said, "For those of you who are here today — this week, you are not here to be a part of history. This country needs you to make history. Our country depends on every single one of you. Do what's right. Believe in it, and you will always succeed."

Congressman Gardner with Colorado delegates Amanda Patarino and Jacob Walden



"It is a tremendously difficult communication challenge to ask people to rethink the way in which energy is delivered in the world in order to address an issue which they don't see as an imminent problem for them and their families."

- ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR GINA MCCARTHY

Gina McCarthy, Assistant Administrator for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation, gave the delegates a primer on the complexity of issues associated with environmental protection and regulation. After reviewing various issues including non-point source pollution, waste disposal, and particulate matter, Ms. McCarthy noted, "There is no challenge before us that is more difficult than the challenge associated with climate change. The complexity of communicating climate change has really diminished our

ability to effectively address this issue. Climate change requires a shift from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources which requires a shift in the way in which our economy is run, and that means you are going to have people who will like that shift and people who will not." Ms. McCarthy advised the delegates, "If there is one message I can give you as you are moving forward and making your choices, it is that the world really needs smart, effective communicators in public service."

period that delved into issues on energy independence, suburban sprawl and nuclear power, Ms. McCarthy encouraged the delegates to embrace the coming challenges in the public sector and join her in tackling them. "I believe in change. Make change. Find opportunities. If that opportunity isn't exactly what you are looking for, if it has positives, take it. If you think it may be over your head, run to it. Go for jobs that you are uncomfortable with because you will grow in those jobs. Be confident in yourself to do it."

Assistant Administrator McCarthy with Massachusetts delegates John Griffin, III and Jacob Levin





White House Hospitality

CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF HISTORIC PROGRAM

A bright spring day was the perfect backdrop for the 50th anniversary U.S. Senate Youth Program visit to the White House where special treatment was in store. The delegates were given the privilege of moving freely within several of the State Floor parlor rooms to enjoy the historic paintings and decorative arts of the Executive Mansion. Gazing out of the Green Room windows to the South Lawn, the students were riveted as they watched the President's Marine One helicopter touch down and the President stride out across the grass. As the group moved through the Grand Foyer, homemade White House granola bars and fruit awaited – surely meeting with the First Lady's approval. Assembled and ready in the East Room, the students did not have to wait long for the Commander in Chief. "I look forward to meeting with this group every year," the President beamed as he greeted them. He congratulated the delegates on their achievement and encouraged their passion for service. "My hair has gotten a little grayer since I took this job in 2008," the President joked, "but I am gratified knowing that I wake up each morning with a chance to make a positive impact on someone's life."







U.S. Secretary of Defense defines mission, Purpose and priorities as national leader

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE LEON PANETTA epitomizes the words 'public servant.' He has served as a Senate aide, a Congressman (he was Chairman of the House Budget Committee from 1989-1993), the Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget, a White House Chief of Staff and the Director of the CIA during his long career in politics. The strength and conviction of his powerful remarks left the room crackling with energy – the early morning breakfast hour notwithstanding. "Our Democracy is a remarkable system for checking power," he said "Our Forefathers designed it this way, but it can also be a formula for gridlock. The key to breaking that gridlock is the willingness of leaders of different ideologies to be able to sit down to debate their beliefs and differences, but ultimately to find consensus to solve problems." He recalled his early days in Washington when he worked as an aide to Senator Tom Kuchel, a moderate Republican of California who was also a founder of the United States Senate Youth Program. In addition to Senator Kuchel, Secretary Panetta urged the delegates to study other members of Congress who were leaders when he was on the Hill, "On the Republican side, there were people like New York Senator Jacob Javits, Clifford Case from New Jersey, Hugh Scott from Pennsylvania; from Vermont, George Aiken; from Kentucky, a fellow named Cooper; from Oregon, Mark Hatfield. All of those were a group of moderate Republicans, and we were under the leadership of Everett Dirksen who was the Senator from Illinois. On the Democratic side, Hubert Humphrey

"In our democracy, we govern either by leadership or we govern by crisis. If leadership is there, if people are willing to exchange views and work through their differences and find solutions, we can avoid crisis. But if that is not there, then make no mistake about it, crisis drives policy."

— SECRETARY OF DEFENSE LEON PANETTA







was there at the time along with Bobby Kennedy. From the South, Dick Russell was Chair of the Armed Services Committee; John Stennis from Mississippi; Henry Jackson from Washington and a number of others. All very strong statesmen. Republicans, Democrats, they had their politics at the time, but they were willing to work together on major issues." The need for statesmanship now is greater than ever, Secretary Panetta said, pointing to the deficit as a major crisis facing the country. His pride in the men and women serving in the military was deeply evident as he described visiting the Wounded Warriors who have served in Iraq and Afghanistan, "I have men and women who are willing to put their lives on the line and die for this country. Surely, the people on Capitol Hill ought to be willing to sacrifice a little bit to make the tough decisions that will help put this country on the right path for the future." Secretary Panetta then took many questions and gave the students an in-depth look at a typical day as Secretary of Defense as well as an insider's version of what occurred in the hours leading up to the capture of Osama bin Laden. When the President asked his opinion on moving forward with the operation, he said, "I put my faith in the American people. The test for me is to bring the average American into the room and ask, 'What would you do?' You had the best intelligence on where bin Laden might be since Tora Bora. No confirmation, but the best intelligence we have had. Would you do this mission or not? And my sense is most Americans would say yes, you should do it." And so, he concluded, "You ask the average American how to deal with our challenges at hand and they would say, deal with it. Have the guts, have the strength to make tough decisions. That is what they expect, and I honestly believe that we will get back to a time when our leadership will, hopefully, govern by leadership and not by crisis."

Secretary Panetta with DoDEA delegates John Bonney and Jane Rudy



Pentagon Leaders FRAME POLICY AND AGENCY'S EVOLUTION IN THE 21ST CENTURY

The annual USSYP visit to the Pentagon began with introductory remarks by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Community and Public Outreach Rene Bardorf. Reflecting upon her varied career in the profit, nonprofit and government sectors, she said, "I recognize now that life is about doing more than you think you can, mustering the courage to speak



in front of a crowd in order to convey a message you believe in, giving up the big house and raising your children to be good people who will serve." Ms. Bardorf spoke movingly about her work with returning veterans from combat zones and their transition to civilian life, "Remember that you too have a responsibility and an opportunity to contribute and make a difference. Give more than just thanks to our troops. Give them a hand and welcome them back into your community; these are your peers." Ms. Bardorf then introduced Deputy Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter, the second in command at the Pentagon, who gave an overview of the challenges facing the Department of Defense. "Because the world changes so quickly, we have to constantly adapt and ask ourselves are we doing the right thing, are we looking ahead," he said. As new

countries emerge, others gain economic power and technological advances enable terrorists to obtain chemical and biological weapons, the global balance of power shifts. "We are constantly working on change here, and we need to be," Deputy Secretary Carter noted. Security is like oxygen, Deputy Secretary Carter suggested, in that you don't notice when you have it, you notice when you don't. After a lively question and answer period touching on topics such as budget cuts, cyber attacks, the limits of electronic surveillance and the advisability of the Iraq War, Deputy Secretary Carter encouraged the delegates to stay on the path to service. "You will find there is no better feeling than waking up in the morning and saying, 'What I am going to do today is bigger than myself.' It is a privilege to wake up every day and come here."

[upper left] Deputy Secretary of Defense Carter; [middle left] Deputy Assistant Secretary Bardorf with Rhode Island delegates Rebecca Taylor and Audra Morrow

LAW ENFORCEMENT, NATIONAL SECURITY AND COUNTERTERRORISM TAKE CENTER STAGE AT INNAUGURAL VISIT TO NEW FBI EDUCATION CENTER

A special visit for the 50th anniversary Washington Week was planned to the newly opened educational center at the Federal Bureau of Investigation's headquarters building in downtown Washington, D.C. Not available to the general public, the group was given a customized tour of the new educational exhibitions displaying the history of the agency as well as a moving presentation devoted to the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks showing actual physical evidence from the plot and tributes to the tireless work of the FBI teams and agents involved in the ensuing investigations. FBI Assistant Director for Public Affairs Mike Kortan welcomed the students in the new auditorium that later transformed into a multi-media center with a film screen that rose to reveal the headquarters shooting gallery where firearms training

and evaluation takes place. Mr. Kortan was followed by keynote speaker Mark Giuliano, the Executive Assistant Director of the FBI's National Security Branch, who outlined the FBI's mission to protect the American public from threat while ensuring civil liberties. Mr. Giuliano described the different roles played by the FBI and CIA in law enforcement and counterterrorism, and he gave an overview of the national partnerships which allow the agency to share information across national borders. The delegates engaged in a comprehensive question and answer session before viewing a film on the history of firearms and firearm safety at the FBI and then, with a flourish, the film screen transformed into a window onto a live shooting demonstration that underscored the level of precision and training agents must attain.

[bottom right] Executive Assistant Director Giuliano with Georgia delegates Daniel Johnson and John Ruff









British Ambassador to the united states CHARMINGLY REVEALS LIFE AS A GLOBAL DIPLOMAT

"The life of a diplomat is a lot like a permanent university," began Sir Peter Westmacott, the United Kingdom's 48th ambassadorial envoy to the United States, "It is a career of constant change, constant education, constant variety." Only a few weeks into his new assignment as Ambassador to Washington, Sir Peter enthusiastically agreed to be the keynote speaker for the annual U.S. Senate Youth Program Ambassador Lunch and spent several hours with the 2012 student delegates describing his fascinating and peripatetic forty years in the British Foreign Service. He pointed to a keen understanding of human relationships and a firm grasp of history as key attributes for success in his field. Having begun his career in pre-revolution Tehran in the 1970's, he later went on to become UK Ambassador to Turkey and most recently served as his nation's Ambassador to France. At a recent farewell dinner in Paris, he recalled a good friend chiding him on the subject of history, saying he hoped Sir Peter had honed his diplomatic skills in France. "I looked at him rather wonderingly as I wasn't sure what lay behind this question. He said, 'because, of course, you are about to have to defend the conduct of British soldiers on the 200th anniversary of the War of 1812 when your people burned down the White House." Fluent in Persian, Turkish and French, the Ambassador spoke about the British-American military alliance in Afghanistan as one example of the strong ties between our two nations. "We are partners in so many ways," he said, "The United States is the biggest foreign investor in the British economy, and the United Kingdom is the biggest foreign investor in the United States economy. And in the area of higher education, we have common standards of

excellence and tens of thousands of students from both of our countries enrolled at each other's institutions of higher learning." Ambassador Westmacott outlined other issues of common interest between the U.S. and the UK that he will be working on, including sovereign debt crises in the Euro zone, Britain's own economic downturn, the Arab Spring, the role of China in the world, Iran and its access to nuclear power and shifting geopolitical power balances with the rise of the BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China) nations. He conceded that with a 24-hour news cycle and instantaneous global communications, some commentators have guestioned the value of on-site Ambassadors in the 21st Century. "For all the relationships that you might have between the principals in capitals, there is still a very important role for people on the spot who are resident. They are movers and shakers who are in the administration who can project the values and describe the policies represented by their country, who know how to negotiate, who have an understanding of the local, political, economic, and other considerations - all of which is key when you are trying to persuade another government to take a certain decision." Nonetheless, he said, we do "have to adapt the advice, the analysis, the negotiation, the work that we are doing as diplomats to the rapidity of the news cycle; if we are too slow then we are out of a job." The delegates enjoyed an in-depth Q and A session, including one pointed guestion asking what is the most prominent issue on which the United States and the United Kingdom disagree. "Well, of course," the consummate diplomat replied, tongue in cheek, "there's absolutely nothing on which we disagree."

Ambassador Westmacott with Virginia delegates Christopher Sheppard and Sae Bo Mi Kim



THE OUTSTANDING 2012 MILITARY MENTOR TEAM

BACK ROW: (I to r) Captain Eric Powell, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel David Sutton, USAF THIRD ROW: Ensign Miguel Green, USN; Captain Michael Fowler, USMC; Major Archie Bates, USA; Lieutenant Commander Ryan Sears, USN; Major Donna Fox, USAF SECOND ROW: First Lieutenant Alex Jabbal, USMC; Lieutenant Connie Braesch, USCG; Lieutenant Colonel Julie Huygen, USAF; Lieutenant Nestor Lazu-Rivas, USCG FRONT ROW: Major Cynthia Kearley, USAF; Captain Ruth Segres, USAF; Lieutenant Janelle Kuroda, USN; Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta; Captain Jessica Karlin, USMC; Captain Kevin Tran, USAF; Lieutenant Colonel Peter Epton, USMC





Preparedness and National Security

DEFINE PUBLIC SERVICE FOR PASSIONATE ALUMNUS

A last minute change in the President's schedule necessitated a quick call to an outstanding USSYP alumnus who works only a few blocks away from the Mayflower Hotel – at the White House, to be precise. Brian Kamoie, the Senior Director for Preparedness Policy on the White House National Security Staff and a delegate to the program from Pennsylvania in 1989, gladly cleared his busy calendar to fill the afternoon speaking role as plans shifted to a presidential meeting the following day. "This program really put me on the path to public service," Mr. Kamoie said. He recalled asking current White House Chief of Staff Jack Lew who also served two terms as Director of the Office of Management and Budget, why choose such difficult jobs in the public sector? Mr. Lew responded, "Once you realize the magnitude of the difference you can make in public life, almost anything by comparison will pale." His answer resonated deeply with Mr. Kamoie. "There are many wonderful careers, "Mr. Kamoie said, "In some, you will make a lot of money. In others, you may have the glitz and glamour of Hollywood and art, and those are all noble pursuits. But to be engaged in questions that affect your fellow citizens, to have to grapple with the hard questions that you face in advising the President – after the utter terror that that creates in you and the sleepless nights – you realize the

remarkable opportunity it is to apply your love and your labor to making this country and the world a better place to live." Operating in the high octane world of policy creation and coordination among key federal agencies, Mr. Kamoie outlined a list of challenges he has worked on in addition to his long-term planning efforts, including the 2009 H1N1 pandemic, the earthquake in Haiti and the Deep Horizon oil spill. He also described the role his agency played through the devastating events of the earthquake, tsunamis and nuclear disaster in Fukushima, Japan last year, which had homeland implications for the Transportation Security Administration and state departments of health here as well as American citizens and military personnel on the ground in Japan. Acknowledging the awesome scope of his work, he said, "One of the things you come to realize is that in the end you are never going to get everything done, but the motto we repeat to our team is: choose carefully and execute relentlessly." Making decisions with imperfect information was one of the aspects of his job that he cited as most difficult. Judging by the huge impact he made on the delegates of 2012, Mr. Kamoie could not have made a better decision than to engage with and inspire them, as he did.

White House Staff Member Brian Kamoie with Pennsylvania delegates Mariam Ahmad and John Connolly



C-SPAN Cameras CAPTURE 50TH ANNIVERSARY Q&A SESSION LED BY FOUNDER AND MEDIA ICON BRIAN LAMB

The USSYP welcomed back Brian Lamb, founder of the C-SPAN networks, for his fifth year as master of ceremonies wrapping up the delegates' impressions from the 50th anniversary Washington Week. Mr. Lamb, who founded C-SPAN in 1979, received the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2007 for creating the public affairs media conglomerate that provides the only live and unedited distribution of the U.S. House and Senate floor proceedings in their entirety among its many other public affairs offerings. For the first time in USSYP history, the USSYP session with Mr. Lamb was recorded and aired by C-SPAN, which is now available in over 100 million households nationwide. "I don't care how old you are. This is the most magnificent week in politics that you'll ever have," the long-time Washington observer opined as he wielded his microphone throughout the room. The delegates enthusiastically recalled their favorite moments, quotes and speakers during the week. A common theme throughout the discussion was how much the delegates learned and appreciated each other despite their political, geographical and personal differences. As one delegate said, "Hearing all the different viewpoints resonates with me and allows me to be more open in debates and to other opinions while listening respectfully and to be able to present my own beliefs in a respectful manner." In contrast to the level of rancor on Capitol Hill, the delegates recognized the essential need for civility and compromise in politics. The session concluded with a quote by Major Archie Bates, USA, who said, "Seek impact, not impression."











50th Anniversary Gala Dinner at the NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART















"NASA is in the future business. That means creating a brighter future and helping to reach our higher potential as human beings." — NASA ADMINISTRATOR CHARLES F. BOLDEN, JR.

Charles F. Bolden, Jr., the country's 12th NASA Administrator, brought the house down as keynote speaker for the USSYP 50th anniversary gala dinner event. His passion and energy for youth and education and his optimism for the future were so palpable that the 300 people in the plush auditorium were truly on the edges of their seats. "The Senate Youth Program has been helping our nation forge its path for 50 years now, "he began. "When this program was created, a visionary president, President John F. Kennedy, was also putting forth a road map for America to reach the stars. I was a teenager when President Kennedy delivered his charge to the Congress to land a man on the moon and return him safely to earth, but those words sparked my imagination, as they did for millions." The retired Marine Corps Major General described his rise to success by saying that when he left high school he had no intention of becoming a pilot, let alone an astronaut. But he credited his parents, both teachers who used education to battle discrimination, with giving him the wings to fly. "Growing up in the segregated South in South Carolina, my mother taught me at an early age that regardless of race, gender, background, or income, there was nothing I couldn't do. She was a teacher and a librarian, but at heart, she was also an explorer." Graduating from the Naval

Academy and later ascending NASA's ranks, Administrator Bolden traveled into space orbit four times, commanding two of the missions. "I guess what my example shows is that even if you don't have everything planned out to the last detail, things somehow work out okay if you just keep working hard and set your sights on the next right thing. The difficulty is in the action and staying the course when the going gets tough." With a budget of \$17.8 billion in 2012, Administrator Bolden outlined his job as directing "a talented team of thousands of dedicated staff and partners across the world that I am fortunate enough to lead and collaborate with who are achieving amazing things and leaving a legacy that will enable your generation to make its own discoveries and achieve milestones you don't think possible right now." Part of his national outreach efforts include major support for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) learning as well as relaying the many benefits to society generated by NASA's scientific research and development. He delighted the group with a wonderful Q and A session that included details on NASA's top research priorities, personal impressions of a Space Shuttle take off and a physics lesson in drinking through a straw in outer space. Thank you, Administrator Bolden, you were truly out of this world.

[opposite page - top right] Delegates chat with George R. Hearst III, Publisher, Albany Times Union; [lower left] Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg with New York delegates Paarth Shah and Jamie Rosen; [middle right] Frank A. Bennack, Jr. Chief Executive Officer, the Hearst Corporation; [lower right] National Gallery of Art Curator Mary Levkoff, an annual speaker in the program, with Florida delegates Joshua Feinzig and Katherine Stone; [lower center] Victoria P. Sant, President, National Gallery of Art; [this page] Administrator Bolden with South Carolina delegates Jared Thompson and Alexis Brewe



HONORS FROM THEIR SENATORS



SENATE RECEPTION ATTENDEES

50TH ANNIVERSARY

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM

68 Senators came to honor and congratulate the 2012 student delegates and personally present them with their \$5.000 college scholarship certificate at the 50th Anniversary USSYP Senate Reception.



ALABAMA

Senator Richard C. Shelby with Anna Harbison and Brandon Wagner



ARKANSAS

Senator John Boozman with Nathanael Mickelson and Payton Finch



ALABAMA

Senator Jeff Sessions with Anna Harbison and Brandon Wagner



CALIFORNIA

Senator Dianne Feinstein with Morgen Harvey and Nina Kamath



ALASKA

Senator Mark Begich with Samuel Kurland and Michael Tappel



COLORADO

Senator Mark Udall with Jacob Walden and Amanda Patarino



ARKANSAS

Senator Mark L. Pryor with Payton Finch and Nathanael Mickelson



COLORADO

Senator Michael F. Bennet with Jacob Walden and Amanda Patarino



CONNECTICUT

Senator Richard Blumenthal with Abdul-Razak Zachariah and Monica DiLeo



HAWAII

Senator Daniel K. Akaka with Angelica Lao and Danicole Ramos



DELAWARE

Senator Thomas R. Carper with Timothy Hegedus and Benjamin Attia



IDAHO

Senator James E. Risch with Nathan Shumway and Elizabeth Hansen



DELAWARE

Senator Christopher A. Coons with Benjamin Attia and Timothy Hegedus



INDIANA

Senator Richard G. Lugar with Matthew Binder and Eric Chien



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton with Christopher Jones and Joy Scott



INDIANA

Senator Daniel Coats with Eric Chien



FLORIDA

Senator Bill Nelson with Joshua Feinzig and Katherine Stone



IOWA

Senator Charles Grassley with Scott Syroka and Blake McGhghy



GEORGIA

Senator Johnny Isakson with Daniel Johnson and John Ruff



IOWA

Senator Tom Harkin with Scott Syroka and Blake McGhghy



KANSAS

Senator Pat Roberts with Joshua Duden and Kristina Pedersen



MARYLAND

Senator Barbara A. Mikulski with Andrew Wilhelm and Douglas Bogan



KANSAS

Senator Jerry Moran with Joshua Duden and Kristina Pedersen



MARYLAND

Senator Benjamin L. Cardin with Douglas Bogan and Andrew Wilhelm



KENTUCKY

Senator Mitch McConnell with Mason Hill and Hyrum Dean



MASSACHUSETTS

Senator John F. Kerry with John Griffin, III and Jacob Levin



KENTUCKY

Senator Rand Paul with Mason Hill and Hyrum Dean



MASSACHUSETTS

Senator Scott P. Brown with John Griffin, III and Jacob Levin



LOUISIANA

Senator David Vitter with Joseph Matte and Andrew Tan



MINNESOTA

Senator Amy Klobuchar with Benjamin Bogard and Erika Batiz



MAINE

Senator Olympia J. Snowe with Julia Brown and Adam Cohen



MISSISSIPPI

Senator Thad Cochran with Michael Wilkerson and Elizabeth Wicks



MISSISSIPPI

Senator Roger F. Wicker with Michael Wilkerson and Elizabeth Wicks



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senator Jeanne Shaheen with Matthew Sanborn and Ashley Chen



MISSOURI

Senator Claire McCaskill with Mitchell McMahon and Jordan Duran



NEW HAMPSHIRE

Senator Kelly Ayotte with Matthew Sanborn and Ashley Chen



MISSOURI

Senator Roy Blunt with Jordan Duran and Mitchell McMahon



NEW JERSEY

Senator Robert Menendez with Brett Biebelberg and Julia Rivara



MONTANA

Senator Max Baucus with Leo Bird and Carter Wilkinson



NEW MEXICO

Senator Jeff Bingaman with Noah McCullough and Elena Vigil



MONTANA

Senator Jon Tester with Leo Bird and Carter Wilkinson



NEW MEXICO

Senator Tom Udall with Noah McCullough and Elena Vigil



NEBRASKA

Senator Mike Johanns with Brent Comstock and Kathryn Rentfro



NORTH CAROLINA

Senator Richard Burr with Gordon White and Benjamin Stockdale



NORTH CAROLINA

Senator Kay R. Hagan with Gordon White and Benjamin Stockdale



PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. with Mariam Ahmad and John Connolly



NORTH DAKOTA

Senator John Hoeven with Aaron Podoll and Taylor Oster



PENNSYLVANIA

Senator Patrick J. Toomey with Mariam Ahmad and John Connolly



OHIO

Senator Rob Portman with Matthew Ducey and John Corcoran



RHODE ISLAND

Senator Jack Reed with Rebecca Taylor and Audra Morrow



OKLAHOMA

Senator James M. Inhofe with Courtney Clark and Jeremy Allen



RHODE ISLAND

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse with Rebecca Taylor and Audra Morrow



OKLAHOMA

Senator Tom Coburn with Jeremy Allen and Courtney Clark



SOUTH CAROLINA

Senator Lindsey Graham with Alexis Brewe and Jared Thompson



OREGON

Senator Jeff Merkley with Ryan Montgomery and Caroline Porter



SOUTH CAROLINA

Senator Jim DeMint with Jared Thompson and Alexis Brewe



SOUTH DAKOTA

Senator Tim Johnson with Elise Twohy and James Updike



UTAH

Senator Mike Lee with Joshua Bennion, Teasha Jacobsen and John Bonney, DODEA



SOUTH DAKOTA

Senator John Thune with Elise Twohy and James Updike



VERMONT

Senator Patrick J. Leahy with Nicholas Shallow and Mariette Aborn



TENNESSEE

Senator Lamar Alexander with Benjamin Herron and Ramie Fathy



WEST VIRGINIA

Senator Joe Manchin, III with Magdalen Karrs and Joshua Childs



TENNESSEE

Senator Bob Corker with Ramie Fathy and Benjamin Herron



WYOMING

Senator Michael B. Enzi with Carter Reed and Shira Lee



TEXAS

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison with Hayden Greer and Hailey Stevenson



WYOMING

Senator John Barrasso with Carter Reed and Shira Lee



UTAH

Senator Orrin G. Hatch with Joshua Bennion, Teasha Jacobsen and John Bonney, DODEA





2012 Farewell Speakers – Danicole Ramos from Hawaii and Kristina pedersen from Kansas

Washington Week tradition gives two student delegates, who have been selected by their peers, an opportunity to provide farewell remarks for the group. Delegates Kristina Pedersen of Kansas and Danicole Ramos of Hawaii entertained their fellow

delegates with slam poetry and a rousing speech. The evening also included the deeply meaningful flag folding ceremony by the Military Mentors and the pageantry of the Presentation of Colors by the Joint Armed Forces Color Guard.

DISTINGUISHED EDUCATORS JOIN DELEGATES FOR THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY WASHINGTON WEEK

The President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals and selection administrators from the states of the USSYP Senate Co-Chairs are invited to join the delegates each year for Washington Week. The program thanks our partners in education for all that they have done for fifty years to support the student selection process.



President of the National Association of Secondary School Principals and Assistant Principal at Guernsey Sunrise Schools in Wyoming



Federal State Legislation Liaison, Maine Department of Education



President of the New Mexico Association for Secondary School Principals and Principal of SIATech Charter High School in Albuquerque



IN THEIR OWN WORDS



The Chief Justice arrived and I spent the next forty minutes feverishly scribbling down everything he said. In all, he answered twenty-two of the delegates' questions. The program not only allowed us to view government in action but to interact with it, to engage in it. The speakers throughout the week always impressed me with their frank answers to our often difficult questions. By the end of the week, I realized that I had filled my notebook with information to which very few people have direct access. This thought deepened my inspiration to become a public servant, for I felt an obligation to bring back this knowledge to my family, friends, and community. At our meeting with the Secretary of the Senate Nancy Erickson, she advised us to always surround ourselves with people who are smarter than we are. Washington Week certainly provided an excellent opportunity for me to do just that whether with the leaders of the country or its leaders-in-the-making. Now that I have shared this wonderful experience with 103 of my peers, I am confident that we will make sure America suffers from no shortage of leadership in the future.

-MATTHEW BINDER, IN - 2012

One speaker stood out to me in particular, Congressman Cory Gardner of Colorado. He incited true inspiration and courage in me when he said, "You are not here to be a part of history; you are here to make history. Your country needs you." Before this moment, I had seldom considered the realistic possibility of my life being an instrument of change. Oh sure, I had joked around with my friends about becoming president and changing the world someday, but never before had I thought public office a pragmatic course. I still don't know where life will take me, but the impact that Congressman Gardner made on me cannot be understated.

-MICHAEL (CAL) WILKERSON, MS - 2012

I marveled at the Constitution in the National Archives, where it sat prominently as a symbol of a group of people who compromised for a greater good. It stood guard as a modern symbol of moderate compromise, Senator Susan Collins, carried on its message of unity and cooperation. But I saw that same Constitution as I watched Chief Justice Roberts speak with fondness about the history of the Supreme Court and the rule of law, and a fluid system whereby any citizen could change the fate of government, as our founders intended. I sat awe-stricken at a man so respected yet so engaging and unassuming discuss the responsibility of the judiciary in the United States.

—JACOB WALDEN, CO - 2012

Washington Week was not just an ultimate validation and recognition of my past accomplishments but also an opportunity for me to realize my potential, to give me a definite direction and focus for my future. After USSYP, I still carry the warmth of California Senator Dianne Feinstein's hug during the Annual Senate Reception. I still will not stop talking as I continue to fight for youth rights. I still will continue to serve and advocate for this great nation that has given me so many incredible opportunities to excel and succeed.

-NINA KAMATH, CA - 2012

My favorite speaker of the week was definitely President Obama. As we waited for him to meet us in the East Room, my heart was pounding so quickly, and the excitement in the room was palpable. When President Obama entered the room all of us burst into applause, and I do not think I have ever smiled more widely in my life. He was such a personable, dynamic, and inspiring leader to meet. My experience meeting President Obama, the other delegates, and all the other speakers during Washington week has seriously impacted my life and my outlook on the future for the better, and has inspired me to pursue a career in public service after I finish my education.

-MONICA DILEO, CT - 2012

Of course, shaking hands with the President of the United States definitely is a moment that I will remember for the rest of my life. The words of many other speakers throughout the week continue to run through my mind in addition to this meeting. Among these words are those of the Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta: "Good leaders take risks and make tough choices." Assistant Administrator of the Office of Air and Radiation Gina McCarthy said, "Go for jobs that you are uncomfortable with because you will grow into them." These messages, as well as many others, will continue to provide inspiration for me even though my Washington Week has come to a close. A common thread among all of our speakers was the toughness and rewards of a career in public service.

-JAMIE ROSEN, NY - 2012

A resonating theme throughout our palette of speakers, including USSYP alumni Senator Susan Collins and Congressman Cory Gardner, was the crucial factor of bipartisanship. This program owes its very existence to a rare bipartisan effort—precious proof that collaboration across party lines is the essential to unlock stalemate that is so hindering.

—ANGLEICA (WAI SAM) LAO, HI - 2012

I survived USSYP Washington Week 2012. Believe me, this is something to be proud of, considering the high number of "This-Is-So-Amazing-I-Think-I'm-Going-To-Just-Keel-Over-And-Die" moments that I had. Going into cardiac arrest when I made a brief moment of eye contact with the President of the United States; suffering from blood-sugar spikes after eating a few too many leftover chocolate capitol domes; dancing joyously in the Mayflower Hotel to the point of muscle failure; crying myself nearly to dehydration as I shared final farewells with my all of my new friends, to name a few. I look back and I wonder that I didn't just collapse one day from sheer bliss. Perhaps I'm being a bit theatrical. Believe me, though, when I say that USSYP deserves every bit of hype.

-MICHAEL TAPPEL, AK - 2012

One of the many speakers that we heard from that week whose words sparked my interest was Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta. He was strong and determined and really spoke about things as they were. He called Congress out for not working together to get things done. "Congressmen and Senators need to remember that in Congress they are paid to make hard decisions, not just to get re-elected." This is one of the most memorable quotes from the Secretary. It reflects not only on congressmen and senators, but on every public servant. It is crucial to remember that being in public service and being a member of a community requires that you put your people before yourself.

-MORGEN HARVEY, CA - 2012

One of my favorite experiences was talking with Senator Risch. I realized that he and other leaders, who I aspire to be like, were just like me their senior year of high school. Step by step they became who they are now. This realization gave me the confidence to work harder now to be where I want to be later in life.

-ELIZABETH HANSEN, ID - 2012

Much more importantly, however, the high expectations I had set for Washington Week were shattered on every level. From touring beautiful Mount Vernon to spotting a somewhat displaced Confucius in the Supreme Court, from the British ambassador's eloquent, witty speech to my life flashing before my eyes as 104 outstanding student delegates compressed for a legendary photo of epic distortions with President Obama, my expectations were shattered. USSYP gave a permanent boost to my patriotism and my desire to serve our country.

-ANDREW TAN, LA - 2012

Our first speaker Chief Judge Robert Henry set the stage for the week. After his explanation of the contemporary relevance of the message and life of Benjamin Franklin, he concluded his speech by saying, "Ignorance is the biggest threat to liberty; ignorance knows no bounds." It is true that my generation is coming of age in a time of immense partisanship, disrespect for politicians, and disregard for the importance of government. Chief Judge Henry helped me understand that in order to get people to cooperate and put faith in their political representation, you have to inspire them to participate constructively in the democratic process. If my generation can resurrect pride in government, perhaps we will be able to overcome the shortcomings and cynicism of today.

-CARTER WILKINSON, MT - 2012

It may be impossible to eliminate all the world's problems, but one lesson I learned from the speakers and my fellow delegates is that we are all leaders when we put all of our heart into our ideas. Secretary Panetta convinced me that the United States and the world need people who take action to bring peace and advancement, and I desire to do just that as a possible ambassador for the State Department one day. Washington Week introduced me to unique individuals who want to work to make America a place that citizens can call home. I have that same dream, but I also want to ensure peace between other nations and the United States by taking action to lead the United States into a time of international partnership. Some may call me a dreamer, but if Washington Week taught me anything, it taught me that dreams fueled by desire can become reality.

—ABDUL-RAZAK ZACHARIAH, CT – 2012

We had already realized Major Bates (our Military Mentor) was an extraordinary man; however, the words that he was about to state would cement him in my memory forever. As he was talking about not being "that guy" and doing the proper thing, he shifted and told us the motto that he lives his life by: "Seek impact, not impression. Impression is what happens when someone looks at your resume and assumes how you live your life. Impact is when a person sees how you live your life, and they are not surprised when they read your resume." I had never heard such a practical, real, non-flowery way to live one's life. Major Bates was a prime example of his motto because he had not told us he graduated from West Point, had a Ph.D., taught at West Point, or fought to defend our nation. I hung on to those words, and I am still striving to make impact, not impression.

—DANIEL JOHNSON, GA – 2012



The amount of differences between us was so vast but at the same time we were also all the same. For instance where I am from the majority of people are Republican Catholics and while I was there I was the minority. The majority were Democratic Protestants. It was quite a humbling experience to not be the majority anymore. Also I had never met anyone who was a Mormon, Islamic, Jewish, or Hindi but on this trip I was able to meet and befriend all of them. When Mr. Brian Lamb asked the question how do you think you got here to everyone I sat and thought about it and I could not come up with an answer. I truly do not know how I was fortunate enough to be selected.

-JOSEPH MATTE, LA - 2012

At the USSYP everything was larger than life. The political figures we ate breakfast, lunch, or dinner with have been characterized, lauded, and criticized across the globe. From small town Vermont, where meals are eaten with one fork rather than three, they seemed almost mythical. During Washington Week I realized that these are real people, real people who thought they could make a difference in their country and now, they are. I think that it was when I was having lunch with the Assistant Secretary of State Mike Hammer, that I realized this could be me. We were talking about the conflict in Syria and he asked me what I thought we should do. At first I was shocked that he asked me, but then I realized in just a couple years it would be us who had to lead our country. These leaders are not demigods. They are just people who dreamed of a better future for our country and now are working to make it happen.

-NICHOLAS JAMES SHALLOW, VT - 2012

"Please place both hands on the wreath," the tall, majestic soldier said to me. I will never forget these words spoken to me at Arlington National Cemetery during Washington Week as one of the Missouri delegates of the USSYP. I, along with four other delegates, was selected to lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. Although this moment is but a memory now, I hold every sound, every silence, every feeling of our visit to Arlington close to my heart as it inspires me in every aspect of my life....I have never been a part of something powerful enough to bring so many people together at one instant. It would be an understatement to say laying the wreath at the Tomb was the biggest responsibility I have been given to date, as well as the proudest moment of my life.

-JORDAN DURAN, MO - 2012

Secretary Panetta was passionate and refreshingly candid when he spoke with us in the Grand Ballroom of the Mayflower Hotel. He explained how we are either governed by crisis or by leadership, because crisis drives policy when those in power are not willing to compromise. He told us that he puts his faith in the American people, faith that we will hold our leaders accountable and force them to govern and make the "tough decisions." The Secretary also felt that the brave men and women who serve in our armed forces today are comparable to "the greatest generation." After interacting with our Military Mentors, I must agree. They exemplified the honor, courage, and intelligence that make our military and our nation great. I was inspired to always put duty ahead of personal gain, and value common sense and cooperation no matter what the cost.

— JOHN (CHANNING) RUFF, GA – 2012

NASA Administrator Charles Bolden made a huge impact on my life with his speech. He taught and exhibited the importance of working hard and setting your sights high with passion, because if you don't have passion you will not be able to stay with it. Innovation, curiosity, working together for common goals, excellent performance, and remaining true to oneself are five things he challenged us with. He said, "There is a world of opportunity ahead and you do all that you can with the time you have and the place you are in." I could see the dedication in his eyes toward space, science, and life and his words motivated me to continue to work and make an impact in my community, state, and country.

-COURTNEY CLARK, OK - 2012

I have always had a love of space, and at one point in my life I dreamed of becoming an astronaut. Although I have now realized that I am more of a public policy girl than math/science, NASA Administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr. was my favorite speaker. He explained to us his career path, and he was so caught up in what he was saying that he began to tear up at a few points in his speech. He went on to tell us about what NASA is doing now and the exciting future in space. But most of all, Administrator Bolden connected with us on the level of the small child in each of us who still wants to be an astronaut, and enlightened us about what it is like to drink a soda in space.

—AMANDA PATARINO, CO – 2012

As if the evening couldn't get any better, after we sat for dinner, I was approached to have dinner at the head table. Ms. Guilford invited me to sit next to none other than esteemed Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. Who would have thought? We quickly developed a rapport. We discussed politics, her life, my family, my future plans, and of all things, sports. For literally an hour, I was sitting next to one of the most respected women in our country, the second ever female on the court. I can't imagine any other program or other institution in the country that would have offered me that same opportunity. Her biggest piece of advice to me was to "Dream big, dream to change the world because you really can, Paarth."

—PAARTH B. SHAH, NY - 2012

Looking past the myriad of speakers and alums that engaged us with quotes, anecdotes, and advice, there are 103 remarkable delegates from across the country—each of whom I had the privilege of getting to know. We hailed from every imaginable background. We were from different states, different religions, different values, and different political opinions, yet we were bound inseparably by our collective ambition to contribute to society, to make change, to make a difference. Our differences didn't matter. Our ability to discuss, challenge, and compromise gave me tremendous hope for our future, and the future of our Republic. As I enter the last few months of my senior year, I reflect back on this experience of a lifetime. I know that the things I've learned in Washington, from the history filled halls of the Capitol to the eclectic late night conversations with my fellow delegates and mentors, are lessons and experiences that will shape the person I become and the impact I hope to have on the world.

-JACOB LEVIN, MA - 2012

I thought of C-SPAN CEO Brian Lamb's interview of our group, and his question on what we would say to those in the political system who will undoubtedly call us naïve for our faith in the future of government. After what I learned during my week in Washington, I can say without a doubt that we are naïve. Naïve, just as the founding fathers were—to create a new, untried, untested form of government based on the will of the people. Naïve like the industrialists who saw the physical world around them and said it was not enough. Or a President who stated that the moon was our destination before we'd even orbited the Earth. Naïve, indeed, like the teachers who get up every morning and do more than necessary hoping that it will impact a pupil in a positive way. Naïve changes the world. I look forward to changing it with my counterparts, the naïve delegates from the United States Senate Youth Program class of 2012.

—CONNOR RUBIN, MI - 2012

The week I spent with the United States Senate Youth Program will forever be ingrained in my memories – as it should be. The events we visited, the people with whom we spoke and the experiences we had were life-changing and, of course, awe-inspiring. I couldn't be more pleased with how the week progressed, and only hope that one day I'll get to speak to a group of students celebrating the United States Senate Youth Program's 100th anniversary.

—KATHERINE STONE, FL - 2012

All essays that were submitted can be read in their entirety at WWW.USSENATEYOUTH.ORG





DELEGATES TOURED HISTORIC SITES IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL















CANDID PHOTOS FROM WASHINGTON WEEK 2012







OFFICIAL SENATOR AND STUDENT DELEGATE ROSTER

UNITED STATES SENATE YOUTH PROGRAM 2012

 $A\,L\,A\,B\,A\,M\,A$



Senator Richard C. Shelby



Senator Jeff Sessions



Anna Harbison Vestavia Hills



Brandon Wagner Virgil Grissom High School

ALASKA



Senator Lisa Murkowski



Senator Mark Begich



Samuel Kurland Juneau-Douglas High School



Michael Tappel Holy Rosary Academy

ARIZONA



Senator John McCain



Senator Jon Kyl



Ofelia Pina Rodriguez West Phoenix High School



Molly Stoneman North High School

ARKANSAS



Senator Mark L. Pryor



Senator John Boozman



Payton Finch Greene County Technical High School



Nathanael Mickelson Alma High School

CALIFORNIA



Senator
Dianne Feinstein



Senator Barbara Boxer



Morgen Harvey Nevada Union High School



Nina Kamath Lynbrook High School

COLORADO



Senator Mark Udall



Senator Michael F. Bennet



Amanda Patarino Lakewood High School



Jacob Walden Castle View High School

CONNECTICUT



Senator Joseph I. Lieberman



Senator Richard Blumenthal



Monica DiLeo Cheshire High School



Abdul-Razak Zachariah West Haven High School

DELAWARE



Senator Thomas R. Carper



Senator Christopher A. Coons



Benjamin Attia The Charter School of Wilmington



Timothy Hegedus Newark High School

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Representative Eleanor Holmes Norton



Christopher Jones Woodrow Wilson Senior High School



Joy Scott School Without Walls Senior High School

FLORIDA



Senator Bill Nelson



Senator Marco Rubio



Joshua Feinzig Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School



Katherine Stone Fort Walton Beach High School

GEORGIA



Senator Saxby Chambliss



Senator Johnny Isakson



Daniel Johnson Ridgeland High School



John Ruff Elbert County Comprehensive High School

HAWAII



Senator Daniel K. Inouye



Senator Daniel K. Akaka



Angelica Lao Moanalua High



Danicole Ramos Kalani High School

IDAHO



Senator Michael Crapo



Senator James E. Risch



Elizabeth Hansen Madison High School



Nathan Shumway Madison High School

ILLINOIS



Senator Richard J. Durbin



Senator Mark Kirk



Robert Chun Hinsdale Central High School



Patrick McGlasson Carrollton High School

INDIANA



Senator Richard G. Lugar



Senator Daniel Coats



Matthew Binder Hobart High School



Eric Chien
Zionsville Community
High School

IOWA



Senator Charles Grassley



Senator Tom Harkin



Blake McGhghy Keokuk High School



Scott Syroka Johnston High School

KANSAS



Senator Pat Roberts



Senator Jerry Moran



Joshua Duden Mill Valley High School



Kristina Pedersen Blue Valley Northwest High School

KENTUCKY



Senator Mitch McConnell



Senator Rand Paul



Hyrum Dean Fort Knox High School



Mason Hill Sayre School

LOUISIANA



Senator Mary L. Landrieu



Senator David Vitter



Joseph Matte
Catholic High of
Pointe Coupee



Andrew Tan
Sterlington High School

MAINE



Senator Olympia J. Snowe



Senator Susan M. Collins



Julia Brown Brunswick High School



Adam Cohen Scarborough High School

MARYLAND



Senator Barbara A. Mikulski



Senator Benjamin L. Cardin



Douglas Bogan Bohemia Manor High School



Andrew Wilhelm Queen Anne's County High School

MASSACHUSETTS



Senator John F. Kerry



Senator Scott P. Brown



John Griffin, III Walpole High School



Jacob Levin Pioneer Valley Regional School

MICHIGAN



Senator Carl Levin



Senator Debbie Stabenow



Connor Rubin Harrison High School



Samantha Smith Bay City Western High School

MINNESOTA



Senator Amy Klobuchar



Senator Al Franken

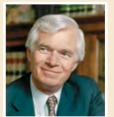


Erika Batiz Mounds View High School



Benjamin Bogard Pine Island High School

MISSISSIPPI



Senator Thad Cochran



Senator Roger F. Wicker



Elizabeth Wicks Ocean Springs High School



Michael Wilkerson Wilkinson County Christian Academy

MISSOURI



Senator Claire McCaskill



Senator Roy Blunt



Jordan Duran Fort Zumwalt West High School



Mitchell McMahon Park Hill High School

MONTANA



Senator Max Baucus



Senator Jon Tester



Leo Bird Loyola Sacred-Heart High School



Carter Wilkinson Bozeman High School

NEBRASKA



Senator Ben Nelson



Senator Mike Johanns



Brent Comstock Auburn Senior High School



Kathryn Rentfro Lincoln East High School

NEVADA



Senator Harry Reid



Senator Dean Heller



Benjamin Link Eureka County High School



Daniel Waqar Advanced Technologies Academy

NEW HAMPSHIRE



Senator
Jeanne Shaheen



Senator Kelly Ayotte



Ashley Chen Nashua High School South



Matthew Sanborn Plymouth Regional High School

NEW JERSEY



Senator Frank R. Lautenberg



Senator Robert Menendez



Brett Biebelberg Jonathan Dayton High School



Julia Rivara North Warren Regional High School

NEW MEXICO



Senator Jeff Bingaman



Senator Tom Udall



Noah McCullough Clayton High School



Elena Vigil St. Michael's High School

NEW YORK



Senator Charles E. Schumer



Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand



Jamie Rosen Bethlehem Central High School



Jane Rudy Brussels American ES/HS, Belgium DODEA



Paarth Shah Horseheads High School

NORTH CAROLINA



Senator Richard Burr



Senator Kay R. Hagan



Benjamin Stockdale Polk County High School



Gordon White Forsyth Country Day School

NORTH DAKOTA



Senator Kent Conrad



Senator John Hoeven



Taylor Oster Century High School



Aaron Podoll Fargo North High School

ОНІО



Senator Sherrod Brown



Senator Rob Portman



John Corcoran Rocky River High School



Matthew Ducey
Maumee High School

OKLAHOMA



Senator James M. Inhofe



Senator Tom Coburn



Jeremy Allen Putnam City North High School



Courtney Clark Norman North High School

OREGON



Senator Ron Wyden



Senator Jeff Merkley



Ryan Montgomery Pendleton High School



Caroline Porter Klamath Union High School

PENNSYLVANIA



Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr.



Senator Patrick J. Toomey



Mariam Ahmad Altoona Area High School



John Connolly Riverview High School

RHODE ISLAND



Senator Jack Reed



Senator Sheldon Whitehouse



Audra Morrow Mt. Hope High School



Rebecca Taylor North Smithfield High School

SOUTH CAROLINA



Senator Lindsey Graham



Senator Jim DeMint



Alexis Brewe Aiken High School



Jared Thompson Thomas Sumter Academy

SOUTH DAKOTA



Senator Tim Johnson



Senator John Thune



Elise Twohy St. Thomas More High School



James Updike Stevens High School

TENNESSEE



Senator Lamar Alexander



Senator Bob Corker



Ramie Fathy Farragut High School



Benjamin Herron Dresden High School

 $T\,E\,X\,A\,S$



Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison



Senator John Cornyn



Hayden Greer Hardin Jefferson High School



Hailey Stevenson Leander High School

UTAH



Senator Orrin G. Hatch



Senator Mike Lee



Joshua Bennion Sky View High School

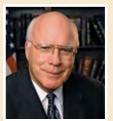


John Bonney Vicenza High School, Italy DODEA



Teasha Jacobsen San Juan High School

VERMONT



Senator Patrick J. Leahy



Senator Bernard Sanders



Mariette Aborn Burr & Burton Academy



Nicholas Shallow Mount Mansfield Union High School

VIRGINIA



Senator Jim Webb



Senator Mark R. Warner



Sae Bo Mi Kim Battlefield High School



Christopher Sheppard South Lakes High School

WASHINGTON



Senator Patty Murray



Senator Maria Cantwell



Jenny Gao Aviation High School



Tara Ghassemikia Interlake High School

WEST VIRGINIA



Senator John D. Rockefeller, IV



Senator Joe Manchin, III



Joshua Childs Morgantown High School



Magdalen Karrs Greenbrier East High School

WISCONSIN



Senator Herb Kohl



Senator Ron Johnson



Patrick Eisenhauer Arrowhead High School



Joshua Hanson Black River Falls High School

WYOMING



Senator Michael B. Enzi



Senator John Barrasso



Shira Lee Cody High School



Carter Reed Cody High School

A FAMILY, A FOUNDATION, A LEGACY

For 50 years, the United States Senate Youth Program has brought thousands of America's brightest young students to Washington, returning them home with insight into their heritage and scholarships to further their education. Each year the students leave with lasting impressions of their week including new friendships forged in shared experiences which many term "life-changing."

Although they did not live to see the program's creation, the progenitors of The Hearst Foundations are with the USSYP delegates each year in spirit. An exemplar of American success, George Hearst was born on a farm in Missouri and went west to seek his fortune in mining. Through industry and acumen he developed the family fortune, eventually becoming a U.S. Senator for California. At the time of his death in 1891 he had served four of his six-year term. His wife, pioneering philanthropist Phoebe Apperson Hearst distinguished herself as one of America's most accomplished women, dedicating herself to educational and children's causes. She co-founded the National Parent Teachers Association in 1897, and when she died one educator said, "Her charities were as broad as the sea and as silent as the quiet of the night."

William Randolph Hearst, their only child, was born in 1863 and became one of the great legends of American journalism – establishing vast media holdings and new forms of communication as his newspapers detailed the history of the 20th century. During his life he gave millions of dollars to colleges, hospitals, kindergartens and museums and in the decade before his death he established the two foundations that bear his name.

The United States Senate Youth Program was envisioned by William Randolph Hearst's sons, George R. Hearst and Randolph A. Hearst who worked with the Senate Leadership of the day – Senators Kuchel, Mansfield, Dirksen and Humphrey – to establish and authorize the program in 1962. Since inception, the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders and the Vice President of the United States serve as the program's Honorary Co-Chairs; two Senators, one of each party, serve as annual Co-Chairs; and an eight-Senator bipartisan panel serves as the annual Advisory Committee. The Hearst Foundations fully fund and administer all operational aspects of the program including college scholarships and yearly grants to the state departments of education to support the selection of delegates.

The Hearst Foundations continue to support numerous charitable and educational organizations across the country. The Foundations' two flagship initiatives are the United States Senate Youth Program and the annual William Randolph Hearst Journalism Awards Program, begun in 1960, to encourage journalistic excellence and to support journalism education at accredited undergraduate schools of journalism across the country.

For more information about The Hearst Foundations please access: www.hearstfdn.org



George Hearst



Phoebe A. Hearst



William R. Hearst



George R. Hearst, Sr.



Randolph A. Hearst



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